

NPIC/D-41/70

9 FEB 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Security (PT&OS)

SUBJECT: Safety [redacted]

REFERENCE: Fire and Safety Survey - [redacted] dated  
30 June through 10 July 1969, [redacted]  
[redacted] Safety Officer, and [redacted]  
Security Officer, NPIC

1. I have read the Fire and Safety Survey - [redacted]  
based on an inspection of the building in July 1969 by [redacted]  
[redacted] I commend those two officers for the  
thoroughness of their inspection and the clarity and usefulness  
of their report.

2. NPIC's response to that Survey is attached. In summary,  
we have corrected some situations, are proceeding to correct  
others, and are seeking ways to cope with a few which are difficult  
for us to solve. As you know, we have some difficult safety  
problems peculiar to the nature of our business and to conditions  
of and in this building.

3. In addition, I have met with the chiefs of the principal  
NPIC components to review our in-house safety inspection and  
maintenance procedures. I have issued instructions to initiate  
(and I shall monitor) the following procedures:

a. Safety items will be logged on a daily basis by  
our Security Branch Duty Officers as part of their daily  
Security/Safety tours of [redacted]. The resulting  
listings will be known as the Daily Safety Log.

b. Each major component in [redacted] will designate  
a Senior Safety Officer responsible for the initiation of  
remedial actions surfaced in the Daily Safety Log.

c. Chief, Support Services Division will monitor the  
completion of remedial actions undertaken under 3b, above.

SECRET

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SUBJECT: Safety - [REDACTED]

d. A new NPIC Notice covering revised NPIC safety practices will be issued.

4. Incidentally, I am still perplexed by the recommendations to install automatic water sprinkler systems in all areas of the building without regard to the nature, replaceability or cost of the equipment housed in each area. My confusion on this subject is compounded by the seemingly uneven application of this requirement throughout the Agency, particularly in areas housing highly technical equipment, the conflicting advice of suppliers and consultants, and the wide range of solutions, or non-solutions, applied by commercial firms throughout the country.

5. There are areas in [REDACTED] that obviously should return to the sprinkler system and we are prepared to take these actions. In other locations we are skeptical that water is the best solution to our problem keeping in mind a concurrent management responsibility to stay operational. Therefore, we are developing an NPIC view on each of the areas in question and we will be seeking from you a better spread of available options. You will be hearing more from us on this subject. 25X1

6. Again, my thanks to [REDACTED] I request that another thorough inspection be made in 1970 by those officers or officers of like caliber from your Office. 25X1

[REDACTED] 25X1  
Executive Director  
National Photographic Interpretation Center

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NPIC/TSSG: [REDACTED] (6 February 70)

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